Minnesota Scholars of Distinction in Theater Arts Playwriting Rubric

Evaluators will use this rubric as they evaluate applicant showcase presentations, materials, and interviews.

	Level 4 – Exemplary	Level 3 – Excellent	Level 2 – Good	Level 1 – Emerging
Monologue or Soliloquy (1-2 minutes)	Communicates the voice of the playwright with originality.	Communicates the voice of the playwright clearly.	Communicates.	Communication is unclear.
An original work that reflects the voice of the	Creates the life and world of a believable character.	Creates the life and world of a character.	Creates a character.	Inconsistent expression of character.
playwright, with a beginning, middle, and end. Not an adaptation or translation.	Demonstrates exceptional level of fluency with language and structure.	Demonstrates an appropriate level of fluency with language and structure.	Usually demonstrates control of language and structure.	Monologue lacks control of language and seems unstructured.
Two Person Play (10-15 minutes) An original work that	Creates an intriguing, original play that reflects the voice of the playwright.	Creates a clearly written play reflecting the voice of the playwright.	Good attempt to convey the world of a short play.	Does not effectively convey the world of the play.
reflects the voice of the playwright. May be a one-act play or a scene from a larger work. Not an adaptation or translation.	Fully develops two believable characters.	Develops two believable characters.	Creates two distinct characters.	Characters are not believable.
	Well-written, typed, and error-free.	Typed and error-free.	Typed and mostly error- free.	Typed.
	Demonstrates an outstanding command of play format, including title, list of characters, dialogue, and stage directions.	Shows a good command of play format, including title, list of characters, dialogue, and stage directions.	A good attempt at play format with title, characters, dialogue, and stage directions.	Play format is unrecognizable. Dialogue is stilted. Stage directions missing or unclear.

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Research Journal and	Well-articulated	Clear statement of artistic	Statement of artistic	Artistic vision unclear.
Support Materials	statement of artistic vision.	vision.	vision.	
Written journal including artistic vision; discussion of themes and content of the pieces; inspiration for	Insightful and detailed discussion of themes and content, and vivid analysis of each character.	Good discussion of themes and content, and strong analysis of each character.	Some discussion of themes and content, and analysis of each character.	Limited discussion of themes, content, and character.
characters; acknowledgment of sources and reference materials used. Typed and double-spaced.	Comprehensive research materials and background ideas with appropriate acknowledgment of sources.	Research materials and background ideas with acknowledgment of sources.	Scattered research materials and background ideas. Sources acknowledged partially.	Lacks research materials and background ideas.
Interview Discuss your playwriting	Insightful discussion of involvement and goals in theater.	Good discussion of involvement and goals in theater.	Some ability to discuss involvement and goals in theater.	Limited discussion of involvement and goals in theater.
process, artistic vision and goals, and themes and content. Reflect on past and present	Well-articulated description of artistic vision and process.	Fine description of artistic vision and process.	Describes artistic vision and process.	Does not describe artistic vision or process.
theatrical experiences, and articulate goals for the future.	Responds with creative ingenuity to questions.	Responds clearly to questions.	Responds to questions.	Does not respond clearly to questions.